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**From:** Nesci, Kimberly [Nesci.Kimberly@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 10/16/2021 1:30:56 PM  
**To:** Syed, Sharmin [Syed.Sharmin@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Messina, Edward [Messina.Edward@epa.gov]; Nguyen, Thuy [Nguyen.Thuy@epa.gov]; Goodis, Michael [Goodis.Michael@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: PFAS in Agricultural Product inquiry

Hi Sharmin,

Yes, I'd be the right person to included in that initial discussion, along with Thuy Nguyen, my Branch Chief in the Analytical Chemistry Laboratory, and likely Ed Messina, our Office Director, as an optional invitee. The first question I would have is whether that product is a pesticide or not, so any additional information you have on the frost protectant product would be helpful. Thanks so much. I'm copying both of them on this email, along with my Deputy OD, Mike Goodis, so you have their information easily available.

Best,  
Kimberly

Kimberly Nesci, Director  
Biological and Economic Analysis Division (BEAD)  
Office of Pesticide Programs  
Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention  
703-969-9109 (cell)

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**From:** Syed, Sharmin <Syed.Sharmin@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 15, 2021 11:59 AM  
**To:** Nesci, Kimberly <Nesci.Kimberly@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: PFAS in Agricultural Product inquiry

Hi Kimberly,

We received some information from MN about PFAS found in one of their ag products (see emails below). We don't have a lot of info yet, and MN would like to meet with us to discuss some of this early research.

Beth Garcia has worked with the Ag Advisors this past year and recommended I reach out to you about participating in this discussion. I suggested having an internal convo first, with R5 LCRD, so we can better understand everyone's roles and the current status of OPP's research on this.

Could you let me know if (a) you're the right contact, and (b) if this seems like the right direction to begin?

Thanks so much,

Sharmin

Sharmin Syed  
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<https://www.epa.gov/agriculture>

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**From:** Harris, Kimberly <[harris.kimberly@epa.gov](mailto:harris.kimberly@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 13, 2021 12:58 PM  
**To:** Syed, Sharmin <[Syed.Sharmin@epa.gov](mailto:Syed.Sharmin@epa.gov)>; Haff, Janet <[haff.janet@epa.gov](mailto:haff.janet@epa.gov)>; Mysz, Amy <[mysz.amy@epa.gov](mailto:mysz.amy@epa.gov)>; Braverman, Carole <[braverman.carole@epa.gov](mailto:braverman.carole@epa.gov)>; Colletti, John <[colletti.john@epa.gov](mailto:colletti.john@epa.gov)>; Dodds, Jennifer <[dodds.jennifer@epa.gov](mailto:dodds.jennifer@epa.gov)>; Heath, Victoria <[Heath.Victoria@epa.gov](mailto:Heath.Victoria@epa.gov)>; Newman, Erin <[newman.erin@epa.gov](mailto:newman.erin@epa.gov)>; Opie, Jodie <[opie.jodie@epa.gov](mailto:opie.jodie@epa.gov)>; Ramaly, Todd <[ramaly.todd@epa.gov](mailto:ramaly.todd@epa.gov)>; Schupp, George <[schupp.george@epa.gov](mailto:schupp.george@epa.gov)>; Shoven, Heather <[shoven.heather@epa.gov](mailto:shoven.heather@epa.gov)>; Weiss, Sydney <[Weiss.Sydney@epa.gov](mailto:Weiss.Sydney@epa.gov)>; Calvo, Estrella <[calvo.estrella@epa.gov](mailto:calvo.estrella@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** PFAS in Agricultural Product inquiry



Hi guys,

The state of Minnesota received an interesting question from a researcher with the University of Minnesota. The researcher tested an agricultural product used to protect fruit trees from frost and found levels of PFAS, including PFNA and 6:2 FtS, and seeking feedback from the state on allowable limits (see last email).

Sophie Green, with MPCA, shared the inquiry with our office for awareness and is offering to discuss this inquiry further with us as they work to prepare their response to the researcher. Any interest in participating in a meeting? If so, please let me know and I'll set up a date/time. Also, appreciate your thoughts on whether I should invite HQ to this discussion, particularly the office addressing the issue of PFAS-in-agricultural plastic containers.

Thanks!  
-Kim

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Kimberly Harris  
Multi-Media PFAS Advisor  
U.S. EPA-Region 5/Water Division  
77 W. Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590  
[harris.kimberly@epa.gov](mailto:harris.kimberly@epa.gov)  
312-886-4239

-----Original Message-----

From: Greene, Sophie (MPCA) <[Sophie.Greene@state.mn.us](mailto:Sophie.Greene@state.mn.us)>  
Sent: Tuesday, October 12, 2021 5:23 PM  
To: Harris, Kimberly <[harris.kimberly@epa.gov](mailto:harris.kimberly@epa.gov)>  
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Ask MPCA online form

Hello Kim,

I hope you are doing well!

I wanted to let you know that MPCA recently got an interesting question from a University of Minnesota Researcher to our general inquiries inbox (forwarded below).

It appears that there are agricultural products on the market for protecting fruit trees from frost that contain high levels of PFAS, including PFNA.

We are working with folks in MPCA and MDA to get an adequate response to Dr. Culhane, but given the restrictions on long-chain PFAS and sensitivities around PFAS and agriculture, I wanted to make sure Region 5 was aware.

Let me know if you would like to discuss this any further.

Best,  
Sophie

-----Original Message-----

From: MN\_MPCA\_General-Info <Info.PCA@state.mn.us>  
Sent: Friday, October 8, 2021 10:58 AM  
To: Greene, Sophie (MPCA) <Sophie.Greene@state.mn.us>  
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Ask MPCA online form

Hi Sophie,

I have another one for you! Is this something that YOU could handle for this individual, or is this another one that would go to the same contact at MDH?

I look forward to your feedback at your earliest convenience.

Katie Coyne  
Customer Service Specialist  
Facilities Support  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Operations Division - Facilities Management Section  
520 Lafayette Road | St Paul, MN | 55155 catherine.coyne@state.mn.us  
Ph: (651)556-0571

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Sent: Thursday, October 7, 2021 2:13 PM  
To: MN\_MPCA\_General-Info <Info.PCA@state.mn.us>

Name: Marie Culhane  
Email: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)  
Phone: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

Question for the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency:

I'm conducting a research project that will be using an agricultural foam (it is a foam used in Europe that is applied to fruit trees to prevent them from freezing). Prior to commencing the research, I had the foam analyzed at PACE Analytical Labs for thirty-three perfluorinated compounds using MPCA Guidance.

I have received the results and of the 33 compounds, only three compounds were detected.

- 1) PFNA with a concentration of 34 ug/L
- 2) 6:2 FTS with a concentration of 35 ug/L
- 3) FDOA with a concentration of 73 ug/L (however, the FDOA control results suggest there was interference present in the foam which may affect the validity of the FDOA results).

Could you please send me the MPCA allowable limits for these compounds? Or, could you let me know what levels of these compounds are allowable to be discharged?

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